

## Study Notes for States and Capitals

Today we will talk about a detailed account of states and union territories of India and their capitals.

India has **28 states** and **8 Union territories** in the country. Every state has a **Governor**, as the representative of the state, and as the head of the Executive.

# States and capitals

The 28 states of India & their capitals are as follows:

**Himachal Pradesh - Shimla/Dharamshala:** Dharamshala is the winter capital of the state. Himachal Pradesh is the third best state in terms of performance and overall development. It has the 11th highest literacy rate in India (83.76%).

**Haryana - Chandigarh:** Chandigarh was selected as the capital in 1948. It derives its name from the temple of 'Chandi Mandir'. Punjab - Chandigarh: The city of Chandigarh is the shared capital of the two states Haryana & Punjab. Also, Chandigarh was constituted as a Union territory on November 1, 1966.

**Uttarakhand - Dehradun:** Dehradun is one of the oldest cities of India & also called the Abode of Guru Drona. Its name is even mentioned in the Ramayana and Mahabharata in the ancient puranic stories.

**Rajasthan - Jaipur:** Jaipur is popularly known as the 'Pink City of Rajasthan'. It has pink coloured buildings & was built in the 18th century by Raja Sawai Jai Singh II. Jaipur is the first planned city of India.

**Uttar Pradesh - Lucknow:** Lucknow is also known as the Golden City of the East, Shiraz-i-Hind. It is popularly known as 'The City of Nawabs'. It is the most populous state in India.

**Madhya Pradesh - Bhopal:** Bhopal was earlier known by the name "Bhoj-pal". It was founded by King Bhoja in the 11th century. Bhopal is also known as the 'city of lakes' & Bhopal lake is the oldest man-made lake in India.

**Bihar - Patna:** Patna is the fifth fastest-growing city in the country & the largest city in the state of Bihar. The derivation of the name Bihar from the Sanskrit vihara (Buddhist monastery) reflects the prominence of such communities in the region in ancient times.

**West Bengal - Kolkata:** Earlier Kolkata was the capital of India due to its trade importance. Its former name was Calcutta. Kolkata is the only city to have hand-pulled rickshaws in India. It has the Birla Planetarium which is the largest in Asia and second-largest in the world.

**Manipur - Imphal:** It literally means "The Jewelled Land". Imphal airport is the second largest airport in northeast India.

**Meghalaya - Shillong:** In 1972, Shillong became the capital of Meghalaya. Meghalaya is famous for its large variety of orchids. It is home to the wettest place on earth with huge amounts of rain flooding.

**Mizoram - Aizawl:** The state legislature, political & cultural centre of Mizoram is Aizawl. All commercial and economic activities are held in Aizawl.

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**Nagaland - Kohima:** Earlier it was also known as Thigoma, Kohima is the land of the Angami Naga tribe. The name, Kohima, was officially given by the British.

**Assam - Dispur:** The first and former capital was Shillong but was later replaced by Dispur in 1972. Dispur is a suburb of Guwahati. Assam is known for tea and silk. The state was the first site for oil drilling in Asia.

**Sikkim - Gangtok:** Gangtok means 'hilltop' or 'top of the hill' & derived from a Tibetan word. Its famous centres of Tibetan Buddhist culture has many monasteries, centres for Tibetology and religious educational institutions.

**Tripura - Agartala:** Agartala has a very high literacy rate, approx 93.8 percent. Tripura is the third smallest state of India. Tripura gives free education to children aged 6-14 years.

**Gujarat - Gandhinagar:** Ahmedabad was selected to be the first capital of the newly created state. It was later given a new capital city Gandhinagar which got its name from the Father of the Nation.

**Odisha (Orissa) - Bhubaneswar:** It is also popularly known as the 'temple city of India. Cuttack was replaced by Bhubaneswar as the capital of Odisha in 1948. It is known for its tribal cultures and its many ancient Hindu temples.

**Chhattisgarh - Raipur:** Former capital was Naya Raipur, which was renamed as Atal Nagar. The town of Raipur has been in existence since the 9th century. It is known for its temples and waterfalls.

**Jharkhand - Ranchi:** Jharkhand is one of the richest mineral zones in the world. It is the only state in India to produce coking coal, uranium and pyrite.

**Andhra Pradesh - Amaravati:** The first and former capital of Andhra Pradesh was Hyderabad which was later replaced by Amaravati people's capital on October 22, 2015. Amaravati has the biggest Buddhist stupa.

**Arunachal Pradesh - Itanagar:** It is India's largest state in the Northeast. It is also known as the Orchid State of India. Geographically, it is the largest among the North-east Indian states commonly known as the Seven Sister States.

**Maharashtra - Mumbai:** Mumbai is the financial, commercial and entertainment capital of India. It was formerly known as Bombay till 1995.

**Goa - Panaji:** Goa was declared as a state of India in 1987 along with Panaji. Goa is also known for its beaches. Over a third of Goa is covered by forest. It is the smallest state in India.

**Karnataka - Bengaluru:** Karnataka was formed in 1956. Bengaluru is also known as the 'Silicon Valley of India'. Indian technological organizations, such as ISRO, Infosys and Wipro are headquartered in the city. It has a major role in the nation's leading information technology (IT) exporter.

**Kerala - Thiruvananthapuram:** It is known for its palm-lined beaches and backwaters, a network of canals. The Land of Coconut Trees and Backwaters. Also known as God's Own Country. It is the Cleanest State in India.

**Tamil Nadu - Chennai:** It was formerly known as Madras Patnam. It is famous for its glorious and ancient temples. Tamil Nadu lies in the southernmost part of the Indian subcontinent.



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**Telangana - Hyderabad:** Telangana was constituted as the 29th state of India on June 2, 2014. Earlier Hyderabad was the joint capital of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh until 2015 but now, Hyderabad is only the capital of Telangana.

## Union territories and capitals

Union Territories Names	Capital
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair
Chandigarh	Chandigarh
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	Daman
Delhi	New Delhi
Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar (Summer), Jammu (Winter)
Lakshadweep	Kavaratti
Puducherry	Pondicherry
Ladakh	Leh

In this blog, we learned about Indian states and their Capitals and some static facts related to them. We studied Union Territories and their capitals. Let's practice some questions related to it and stay tuned for more.